

April 6, 1983

LB 64

allow this bill to come to the floor?

SENATOR DeCAMP: That is correct.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: That is correct.

SENATOR NEWELL: All right, Senator DeCamp, I would hope you would have an opportunity if you'd like and use the remainder of my time to explain why one should not welch on agreements when one gets their bill out of committee anyway. Would you like to do that?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Absolutely.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members, welching on agreements isn't that bad a deal. I just learned that a little while ago. In fact, it works eminently well. You can make them out here in public daily or they are no good, so what was the question again?

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator DeCamp, it is obvious it was a bad question to ask you since your frame of mind has....

SENATOR CHRONISTER: You have one minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: ....changed substantially from when we allowed this bill to come out of committee, however, I will be glad to deal with my last minute myself (inaudible.)

SENATOR DeCAMP: That was the agreement in committee, I'll concede that. That was the only way to get it out of the committee by the way.

SENATOR NEWELL: Thank you very much, Senator DeCamp. I would just like to reiterate very quickly that it is, in fact, bad public policy if, in fact, we should change the provisions of this bill to allow public utilities to contract. They will find it most advantageous to try to use this as a collection fee. They will not be able to keep a good perspective as to those people most in need and I don't believe we will find the administration of this program enhanced one little bit by authorizing that. In fact, Senator Landis has indicated in the past that there is a substantial number of places where we could administer this program now and adding a few utility companies will not, in fact, enhance the program in the slightest. I urge you to reject amendment